

Arroyo Burro Estuary and Mesa Creek Restoration

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - January 17, 2007

The City of Santa Barbara Creeks Division has completed construction of the Arroyo Burro Estuary and Mesa Creek Restoration Project. Located at the end of the Arroyo Burro Beach parking area and within the Douglas Family Preserve, the project involves restoration of coastal estuarine, riparian and coastal sage scrub habitats and will improve water quality in Mesa Creek, the estuary and at Arroyo Burro Beach.



“Before” Photo, June 2006

Mesa Creek used to flow through this concrete culvert.



“After” Photo, December 2006

Mesa Creek now flows through a restored creek channel.



Project Elements:

- Removal of a 300 foot concrete culvert and construction of an open creek channel to “daylight” Mesa Creek
- Expansion of the estuary to benefit the endangered Tidewater Goby and fish passage enhancements to benefit the endangered Steelhead Trout
- Removal of non-native plants and planting of 6,000 native plants & trees (2,500 planted to date)
- Stabilization of creek banks using coconut fiber mat and willow cuttings
- New trails and a footbridge to the Douglas Family Preserve

For more information call 897- 2658
or visit www.sbcreeks.com



Project funded by hotel visitors through Measure B, County of Santa Barbara Coastal Resources Enhancement Fund, California Coastal Conservancy, California Wildlife Conservation Board, California Department of Parks and Recreation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.